

1895

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION.

1895.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

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— OF —

THE GULF MISSION

— OF —

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

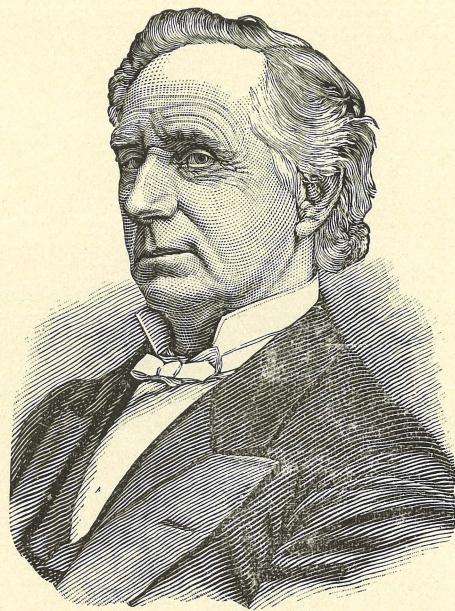
HELD AT

Crowley, Louisiana, January 24, 1895.

CHARLES K. WOODSON, Secretary.

Vol. I, No. 3.

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BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN, D. D., LL. D.
Residence, 3966 Delmar Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.
PRESIDENT OF THE GULF MISSION,
1895.

JOURNAL

OF THE

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

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GULF MISSION

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church,

HELD AT

CROWLEY, LOUISIANA,

January 24-27, 1895.

Vol. I, No. 3.

JENNINGS, LA.:
Times Printing House,
1895.

Officers of the Mission.

PRESIDENT:

BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN, D. D., LL. D.
[3966 Delmar Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.]

SECRETARY:

CHAS. K. WOODSON,
Baldwin, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

M. E. DIEHL.

STATISTICAL SECRETARY:

R. L. CRAWFORD.

TREASURER:

J. F. ROSS.

Mission Roll and Directory.

NAME.	ADDRESS.	RELATION.
Chaney, P. C.....	Oberlin, La.....	Alabama Conference
Cline, W. H.....	Lake Charles, La.....	Southwest Kansas "
Crawford, R. L.....	Lake Charles, La.....	Louisiana "
Drown, P. A.....	Jennings, La.....	Central Ohio "
King, Cyrus A.....	Lake Charles, La.....	Louisiana "
Pendleton, S. E.....	Jennings, La.....	Kansas "
Robidoux, P. J.....	Crowley, La.....	Louisiana "
Wells, E. L.....	Welsh, La.....	Nebraska "
Wilkinson, Asbury.....	Lake Charles, La.....	Southeast Indiana "
Woodson, Chas. K.....	Baldwin, La.....	Louisiana "
Ross, J. F.....	Crowley, La.....	Local Preacher
Diehl, M. E.....	Crowley, La.....	" "
Ellis, James.....	Welsh, La.....	" "
Shepherd, William	Crowley, La.....	" "
Gilman, J. T.....	Kinder, La.....	" "
Garot, Joseph.....	Crowley, La.....	Exhorter
Garot, Adolph.....	Crowley, La.....	"

EPISCOPAL RESIDENCES AND ADDRESSES.

Bishop Thomas Bowman, D. D., LL. D., 3966 Delmar avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

Bishop R. S. Foster, D. D., LL. D., Roxbury, Mass.

Bishop S. M. Merrill, D. D., 57 Washington street, Chicago, Ill.

Bishop E. G. Andrews, D. D., LL. D., 150 Fifth avenue, New York City, N. Y.

Bishop H. W. Warren, D. D., LL. D., University Park, Colorado.

Bishop C. D. Foss, D. D., LL. D., 2043 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Bishop J. F. Hurst, D. D., LL. D., Washington, D. C.

Bishop W. X. Ninde, D. D., LL. D., Detroit, Mich.

Bishop J. M. Walden, D. D., LL. D., 190 W. Fourth street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bishop W. F. Mallalieu, D. D., LL. D., Buffalo, N. Y.

Bishop C. H. Fowler, D. D., LL. D., 1115 Nicollet ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Bishop J. H. Vincent, D. D., LL. D., Topeka, Kansas.

Bishop J. N. FitzGerald, D. D., LL. D., 1428 St. Charles ave., New Orleans, La.

Bishop I. W. Joyce, D. D., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Bishop J. P. Newman, D. D., LL. D., Omaha, Neb.

Bishop D. A. Goodsell, D. D., LL. D., 1037 Market st., San Francisco, Cal.

Gulf Mission Appointments--1895.

CYRUS A. KING (La.) Superintendent.

[Postoffice, Lake Charles, La.]

Baldwin.....	Chas. K. Woodson (La.)
Crowley and Ebenezer	Supplied by J. F. Ross
Jennings.....	S. E. Pendleton (Kansas)
Lake Charles.....	R. L. Crawford (La.)
Lake View.....	To be supplied
Oberlin.....	P. C. Chaney (Ala.)
Welsh.....	E. L. Wells (Neb.)
Southeast Texas Mission.....	W. H. Cline (S. W. Kansas)
French Mission	P. J. Robidoux (La.)

Chas. K. Woodson, President Baldwin Academy.

Standing Committees for 1896.

[Chairmen only.]

PUBLIC WORSHIP.....	Pastor at Jennings
SABBATH OBSERVANCE.....	P. J. Robidoux
TEMPERANCE.....	R. L. Crawford
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TRACTS.....	E. L. Wells
EDUCATION.....	Chas. K. Woodson
AUDITING.....	P. C. Chaney
BIBLE CAUSE.....	P. A. Drown
CHURCH EXTENSION.....	S. E. Pendleton
STATE OF THE CHURCH.....	W. H. Cline
PERIODICALS.....	J. F. Ross
PUBLISHING MINUTES.....	The Secretary
MISSION CAUSE.....	Superintendent of the Mission

Disciplinary Questions.

GULF MISSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPEAL CHURCH.

Held in Crowley, La., Jan. 24-27, 1895, Bishop Bowman presiding; Chas.

K. Woodson, secretary, postoffice address: Baldwin, St. Mary Parish, La.

QUESTION 1.—Who are on trial?

- (a) In studies of the First year? Ans. None.
- (b) In studies of the Second year? Ans. None.
- (c) In studies of the Third year? Ans. None.
- (d) In studies of the Fourth year? Ans. None.

QUESTION 2.—What are members of Conferences?

- (a) In studies of Third year? Ans. None.
- (b) In studies of Fourth year? Ans. None.

QUESTION 3.—What Traveling Preachers have been ordained Deacons?

Ans. None.

QUEST. 4.—What Local Preachers have been ordained Deacons? Ans. None.

QUEST. 5.—What Traveling Deacons have been ordained Elders? Ans. None.

QUEST. 6.—What Local Deacons have been ordained Elders? Ans. None.

QUEST. 7.—Was the Character of each Preacher examined?

Ans. This was done as the name of each Preacher was called in open Session.

QUEST. 8.—What is the Statistical Report this year?

Ans. See Statistical Tables.

QUEST. 9.—What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections as reported by the Treasurer?

Ans. \$254.00 for the nine Benevolent Collections.

QUEST. 10.—Where are the Preachers stationed?

Ans. See List of Appointments.

QUEST. 11.—Where shall the next Annual Meeting be held?

Ans. Jennings.

JOURNAL.

Thursday--First Day.

CROWLEY, LA., Jan. 24, 1895.

Third Annual Session.—The Gulf Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in its third annual session at Crowley, La., Thursday at 9 a. m., January 24, 1895, Bishop Thomas Bowman presiding.

Opening Religious Services.—Bishop Bowman announced the hymn,

“Come, let us join in cheerful songs,
With angels around the throne,”

which was sung in a spirited manner by the members of the Mission and the company present. The Mission was then led in prayer by the Rev. George Frazier, D. D., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. The hymn,

“O, for a thousand tongues to sing,
My great Redeemer’s praise,”

was sung, after which the Bishop addressed the Mission on the subject of “Perfect Love,” and then, aided by the Superintendent, Cyrus A. King, proceeded to the administration of the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

Roll Call.—The Secretary of the last session of the Mission, Chas. K. Woodson, called the roll of the Mission. The following were present and answered to their names: P. C. Chaney, W. H. Cline, R. L. Crawford, P. A. Drown, C. A. King, S. E. Pendleton, P. J. Robidoux, E. L. Wells, Asbury Wilkinson, Chas. K. Woodson, M. E. Diehl, J. F. Ross, Wm. Shepherd, John T. Gilman.

Election of Officers.—On motion of C. A. King, Chas. K. Woodson was elected Secretary. On motion the Secretary was granted the privilege of nominating his assistant. M. E. Diehl was nominated and elected Assistant Secretary. R. L. Crawford was elected Statistical Secretary and J. F. Ross, Treasurer.

Book Accounts.—On motion of the Superintendent, the New York and St. Louis Book Accounts were placed in the hands of the Committee on Periodicals.

Address of Welcome.—Rev. W. W. Drake, Pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was introduced and addressed the Mission in a fraternal spirit, and with much cordiality welcomed the brethren of the Mission to the good cheer and generous hospitality of the people of Crowley.

Response.—Bishop Bowman extended the right hand of fellowship to Bro. Drake and said “My heart is as thy heart, give me thy hand,” and then in a pleasant and genial manner responded to the address of welcome in behalf of the Mission.

Introductions.—Rev. George Frazier D. D., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Rev. William Shepherd, Rev. P. J. Robidoux and Rev. John T. Gilman were formally introduced to the Mission.

To Fix the Time.—On motion of the Superintendent the time of the regular sessions was fixed at from 9 to 12 a. m., the first half hour to be spent in devotional exercises.

Question vii.—“Was the character of each Preacher examined?” was taken up. The Superintendent of the Mission, Cyrus A. King, was called, his character passed and he read his report.

It was ordered that each Pastor, in addition to the general statement of his work, report all the benevolent collections taken. The roll was called and each Pastor reported his work, and the character of the following was passed: Chas. K. Woodson, P. J. Robidoux, S. E. Pendleton, R. L. Crawford, E. L. Wells, P. C. Chaney, M. E. Diehl, J. F. Ross, P. A. Drown.

Introductions.—Joseph Garot and Adolph Garot, exhorters in our French work, were introduced.

Standing Committees.—On nomination of the Superintendent the list of Standing Committees was completed, read and adopted.

Public Worship.—M. E. Diehl, Cyrus A. King.

Sabbath Observance.—J. F. Ross, P. A. Drown, E. L. Wells.

Temperance.—P. A. Drown, S. E. Pendleton, A. Wilkinson.

Sunday Schools and Tracts.—P. C. Chaney, P. J. Robidoux.

Education.—Chas. K. Woodson, S. E. Pendleton, R. L. Crawford.

Auditing.—P. J. Robidoux.

Bible Cause.—M. E. Diehl, E. L. Mills, P. C. Chaney.

Church Extension.—E. L. Wells, S. E. Pendleton, P. J. Robidoux, P. A. Drown, Chas. K. Woodson.

State of the Church.—W. H. Cline.

Periodicals.—S. E. Pendleton, M. E. Diehl, E. L. Wells.

Publishing Minutes.—Chas. K. Woodson.

Mission Cause.—C. A. King, S. E. Pendleton, P. J. Robidoux.

Extension of Time.—On motion of S. E. Pendleton, the time was extended ten minutes.

Miscellaneous.—The Chairmen of the several Standing Committees gave notice of the time and place of meeting of the Committees. Announcements of the afternoon and evening services were made by the Superintendent. The Bishop appointed P. A. Drown to lead the worship on Friday morning. The doxology was sung and the benediction was pronounced by Bishop Bowman.

Friday--Second Day.

CROWLEY, LA., Jan. 25. 1895.

Religious Exercises.—The session of the second day was opened promptly at 9 a. m. The religious exercises for the first half hour were conducted by Rev. P. A. Drown.

Minutes Read and Approved.—The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Reports.—Bishop Bowman requested that each pastor give a verbal report in respect to the geographical conditions, the people and the particular needs of each Pastoral charge. The following brethren made extended remarks covering the questions asked by the Bishop: Chas. K. Woodson, M. E. Diehl, P. J. Robidoux, J. F. Ross, P. A. Drown, E. L. Wells, P. C. Chaney.

The Bishop then addressed the Mission on the influence of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the south and the direct benefits already observable.

Rev. W. H. Cline was requested by the Bishop to give a general idea of the outlook and the special conditions surrounding our work in this part of the south. Brother Cline spoke at some length and gave a historical review of the work, as organized by himself, to the present hour. He spoke of the rapid growth of our church, the remarkable development of the country, the increase of immigration in its steady flow from the north and northwest, until now the point had been reached when immigration was likely to become a flood tide, filling and occupying all available territory in southwest Louisiana and south-east Texas, and called special attention to the beneficial influence of our church upon the native population, together with the better civilization introduced by our northern people which already had produced a salutary effect. Among other things, he affirmed, "if our church boards, and especially the 'Mission Board,' could see and know the facts as they exist, they certainly would extend

a more helping hand. We need and must have more means to carry on this great work which in the Providence of God has been opened to our church."

Communication.—A communication was received from Mrs. Col. Springer, who is now traveling in the south in the interest of the Woman's Home Missionary Society. (See communication.) On motion of the Secretary, this communication was referred to the Committee on Missions.

Miscellaneous.—The Bishop appointed W. H. Cline to conduct the religious service Saturday morning. After the announcements were made, and the singing of the doxology, the benediction was pronounced by Asbury Wilkinson.

EVENING SESSION.

CROWLEY, LA., Jan. 26, 1895.

Religious Exercises.—The third day's session of the Mission was opened at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, and the religious exercises were conducted by Rev. W. H. Cline.

Minutes Read and Approved.—The minutes of the previous session were read, corrected and approved.

Church Relation.—The case of J. F. Ross, a local elder in the church, was presented by the Superintendent of the Mission. After the statements made by the Superintendent and Brother Ross, touching the case, it was ordered that the Mission endorse the action of the Quarterly Conference in the case of J. F. Ross, and that he be recommended for admission on trial in the Louisiana Conference.

On motion of the Superintendent, Chas. K. Woodson and R. L. Crawford were appointed a committee to examine J. F. Ross in the required course of study for admission on trial in an Annual Conference.

Introductions.—Rev. James Ellis was introduced.

Remarks.—Bro. Ellis made some appropriate remarks relative to our work in southwest Louisiana and his connection with it.

P. C. Chaney spoke in reference to the Indians who reside within the bounds of the Mission. P. J. Robidoux referred again to the French work, and spoke of its relation to the work among the Indians alluded to by Rev. Chaney.

Church Relation.—The Superintendent brought up the case of William Shepherd, a local preacher.

William Shepherd was permitted to make a statement concerning his former connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, relative to his papers in the hands of said Church.

On motion of the Superintendent, it was ordered that the Secretary, in behalf of the Mission, request the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to restore to William Shepherd his parchments.

On motion it was requested that all Local Preachers in our work be placed on the roll of the Mission.

Reports of Committees.—Committee on Missions reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Committee on Temperance reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

On motion of P. A. Drown it was recommended that this report on Temperance be read tonight in connection with the Temperance Anniversary. *P. 21*

Committee on Sabbath Observance reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Committee on Sunday Schools and Tracts reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Address.—The Bishop addressed the Mission, and called attention to our Sunday School literature in comparison with so-called cheap Sunday School literature scattered over the country, and emphasized the work of the "Book Concern" in publishing and giving to our Sunday Schools the best literature, on good honest material, as cheap as any publishing house, when all things were considered; and besides this, donating back to the church a large part of the profits which accrue from its sale to be distributed to the needy causes of the Church.

Report of Committees.—Auditing Committee reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

On motion the Statistical Secretary was requested to read his report by charges and item by item.

The Statistical Secretary reported in accordance with the above motion and the report was adopted. (See Statistical Tabulated report.)

To Fix the Place of Meeting.—Dr. S. E. Pendleton moved that we do now fix the place of our next meeting. Jennings was nominated and unanimously chosen.

Secretary's Financial Report.—The Secretary made his financial report on publishing the minutes of the last session and the report was adopted. (See Financial report.)

On motion it was ordered that the roll of the Mission be called for subscriptions to the Minute Fund for publishing the Journal of the present session. The roll was called and a liberal subscription was made. (See Subscription list.)

On motion of J. F. Ross, it was ordered that the Secretary be instructed to publish two hundred copies of the minutes of this session.

Resolution of Respect.—P. C. Chaney offered a resolution of respect to Bishop Bowman, thanking him for his presence and wise counsels in administering the affairs of the Mission, which was adopted.

Report of Committees.—Committee on Bible Cause reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Committee on Periodicals reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Committee on Church Extension reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

Chairmen of Standing Committees.—P. A. Drown moved that the Superintendent, Cyrus A. King, be requested to nominate the Chairmen of the various Standing Committees for 1896.

The Superintendent moved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet after the Temperance Anniversary tonight.

On motion P. A. Drown and S. E. Pendleton were excused from any further attendance upon this session of the Mission.

Miscellaneous.—The doxology was sung and William Shepherd pronounced the benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

Saturday, Jan. 26, 1895.

After the Temperance Anniversary the Bishop promptly opened the evening session.

Minutes Read and Approved.—The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Reports, Continued.—Committee on Education reported and the report was adopted. (See report.)

The Superintendent announced the nominations of the Chairmen of the Standing Committees for 1896, which was approved. (See list on page 4.)

On motion the Superintendent was requested to furnish his report of the work in general for publication in the Journal.

Resolutions of Respect.—Resolutions of respect were adopted, thanking the people of Crowley for their generous hospitality. (See resolutions.)

Resolutions of thanks were extended to the Pastor of the church at Crowley, Rev. M. E. Diehl, for the success of this session of the Mission to which he so largely contributed by his zeal and untiring efforts and for the generous program provided. (See resolutions.)

Resolutions of thanks were offered to the Secretaries and to the Treasurer for their work. (See resolutions.)

Adjournment.—On motion of the Superintendent it was ordered that after the approval of the minutes, the announcement of the Sabbath services, and the reading of the appointments, the Mission stand adjourned sine die.

The Mission joined in singing the doxology and the benediction was pronounced by E. L. Wells.

Attest:

CHAS. K. WOODSON,

Secretary.

THOMAS BOWMAN,

President.

Gulf Mission Appointments--1895.

CYRUS A. KING (La.), Superintendent.

Baldwin.....	Chas. K. Woodson (La.)
Crowley and Ebenezer.....	Supplied by J. F. Ross
Jennings.....	S. E. Pendleton (Kansas)
Lake Charles.....	R. L. Crawford (La.)
Lake View.....	To be supplied
Oberlin.....	P. C. Chaney (Ala.)
Welsh.....	E. L. Wells (Neb.)
Southeast Texas Mission.....	W. H. Cline (S. W. Kansas)
French Mission.....	P. J. Robidoux (La.)

Chas. K. Woodson, President Baldwin Academy.

Reports.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Bishop and Members of the Gulf Mission:

DEAR BRETHREN:—We are just passing the second mile-stone in the organized life of our Mission. Let us pause and look back over the year. We may find some things to encourage and stimulate us in our work in the future.

One year ago Bishop Walden said to us—ten men—"Go into this field and do the Master's work." The first part of the command, at least, was obeyed to a man. Each one went to his field of labor. As to the fulfilling of the latter part, we will let the record show.

Every man, from the beginning to the end of the list, has continued at his post, until today we are called together, by our beloved senior Bishop, for reports, counsel and re-assignment to work for the coming year.

The lives and health of ourselves and our families have been remarkably preserved. No accident to life or limb, thanks to our Heavenly Father.

We have a broad field to cultivate—geographically, at least. I once heard a Bishop say: "A Methodist minister ought to be thankful for a field of labor." If he expressed the truth, we certainly have cause for thankfulness. Possibly he was looking only on one side of the matter, and lost sight of the human necessities of workmen and their families; and possibly we might have greater cause for thankfulness if necessities were more abundant, together with an occasional luxury. We did think the "Dear Mother" should have made more liberal provision for her infant child, through her great Missionary organization. However, we realized she had a large family, and probably thought this one, though it was the baby—being in a warm climate—was strong and vigorous enough to help itself. Well, the year is gone, and here we are ready to take hold again in the name of the Lord.

What of the results of the past year? We had then four church buildings and two parsonages. One church and one parsonage have been burned, with nearly all their furnishings. We have today six churches, one chapel and one parsonage; an advance of nearly fifty per cent in value of church property.

We had a year ago four hundred and fifty-seven members and probationers in our church. The returns will show at this session little, if any, short of seven hundred members and probationers; quite equal to the advance in church property. Last year our contribution to the Missionary Society was eighty-eight dollars. This year it will amount to one hundred and thirty-nine dollars, over the full amount asked by the parent board. Last year we collected for Church Extension twenty-three dollars. This year it will reach sixty, a decided advance over last year. We think the Church Extension Society asks too much of us in our present condition, yet the Board does noble things for us and we shall push her collections in the future and try hard to reach the apportionment, whatever it may be.

God has blessed our work with revivals and ingatherings on nearly all our charges. Some points have been weakened by removals, but every charge, as a whole, I think I may safely say, is stronger today than a year ago.

Baldwin, on our eastern border, is situated in the midst of a people largely French speaking and principally Catholic, has a small church organization in connection with the Baldwin Academy. Under the watch-care and faithful oversight of Bro. Woodson, this church has made advancement. The Sunday school is doing good Methodist work.

Crowley, the seat of our present session, has lost and gained. The loss has been principally in the town of Crowley, and at the Prairie Hayes school house, by removals. The gain has been in additions which fill the places of those going from us, so that the membership is not materially changed.

The Ebenezer Church has made provision for its church debt by donations of rice, not yet marketed. Bro. Diehl has served this church. We have two Sunday schools in fair condition, doing good work.

The French Mission, with Bro. Robidoux as pastor, lies north, south, east and west of Crowley. It has no geographical lines, and we might say, with truth, there is scarcely a limit to the calls for work, coming from the French-speaking people to the pastor who has gained an enviable standing among them. It has no church property. Its services are held in private houses. A year ago there were no members of the church and no Quarterly Conference. The pastor reported fifty-two probationers. We now have a regularly organized Quarterly Conference, Board of Trustees, fifty-eight members, ten probationers, three exhorters, and hope soon to be able to organize Sunday schools. The work is in a hopeful condition.

Jennings Circuit lies south and east of Jennings and has three appointments, two at Lake Arthur, one at Midland. The Midland class was organized after our last session. Bro. Drown, the pastor, went there by my request. He found no place to hold services, appointed a committee to look after the matter, returned in two weeks and dedicated "Midland Chapel," complete, free of debt. It was constructed principally of lumber that was in growing trees when the committee was appointed, and is a chapel sixteen by thirty-two feet, sufficient to accommodate the people. There are two Sunday schools on this work.

Jennings has two appointments, one in town, and one twelve miles northwest, two flourishing Sunday schools and a loyal membership. Jennings has had a severe scorching the past year. The flames destroyed the town church, parsonage and stable, together with the pastor's library, household furniture, clothing of the family, and manuscripts, or the life-work of Bro. Pendleton. From lack of rain the sun scorched the crops in the north half of the charge until the people feel they are left, not destitute, but with limited means to care for themselves and the Lord's work. Before these fires, thank God, under the influence of God's burning truth, poured upon the people by the faithful Pastor and others, much of the dross of sin had been consumed. A blessed revival of religion resulted, and a large addition to the church. The outcome is a beautiful church building in town, more commodious and better adapted to our work than the one destroyed by fire, nearly ready for dedication, and a people, plucky, ready to do service for the master. The church at Fairview is a gem of neatness and fully meets the wants of the people.

Iowa and Welsh have six appointments, one Methodist Sunday school; at all other points are union schools. We have a church building, "Fletcher Chapel," at Welsh. This church has a debt of about four hundred dollars and is in an embarrassed condition. At the time of its dedication a sufficient amount to pay all indebtedness, except the Church Extension loan, was secured. Considerable part of this subscription remained unpaid, and I fear will continue so. Bro. Ross, the pastor, has made heroic efforts to collect, but has failed. A number of our best people have moved away, leaving the class small and with limited means. I have a plan, however, which, if we can carry out, and there is promise in that direction, will clear things up and place our church on its feet at Welsh.

Esterly appointment, on this charge, has also been depleted by removals. Meadow Prairie has had a blessed ingathering and is an important point. Iowa and its outlying places are growing. As a whole, this charge is on the up grade. Bro. Ross served the entire charge until the second Quarterly meeting. The people on the east half of the charge desired his entire time, and by mu-

tual consent I arranged for him to serve them, and Bro. Wells, the pastor of Lake View, to give part of his time to the west half of the charge. This plan has given satisfaction all round.

Oberlin charge on the Watkins R. R. has four regular appointments, two Methodist Sunday schools and three classes. Bro. Chaney, the Alabama "squirrel hunter," has shown himself worthy of the title, by hunting men, women and children for the Master. This charge is growing. Among its needs at present are three church buildings. We hope to build two at least the coming year.

Lake View charge, organized at the last conference, is in Cameron Parish, with headquarters at Lake View, on the borders of Calcasieu Lake. At Lake View there is a colony of northern people, a class of thirty earnest, devoted, loyal Methodists. Two entire families of native people, raised in the Catholic Church, have been converted and united with this class. Others are being drawn to us. A church building awaits the coming of Bishop Bowman to dedicate it on next Tuesday. There is an excellent Methodist Episcopal Sunday school here. This charge has had the pastoral oversight of Bro. Wells. When this charge takes the form which we think Bishop Bowman will give it at this session, it will be much stronger and require the entire service of a man.

Lake Charles. Bro. Crawford, the pastor, has given untiring effort and undivided time, and not without results, to our work on this charge. He has not accomplished all he desired and hoped for, but some things have been done, some results reached. Among these, a united people, a consolidated church membership, working harmoniously for the Master; a clean, well fitted up hall for services; a Sunday school, increasing in interest, enthusiasm and members, and a largely increased congregation.

What is the outlook for the future? We are suffering from "tariff tinkering" and loss of the sugar bounty; yes indeed, we are, but, my brethren, we are not crushed—far from it. The resources of this country are not confined to two sources. Time will enable us to adjust ourselves to the new conditions, or to change them to suit us. Immigration is coming to us in increased volume. Some come to look, and go away; others come to look, purchase, and stay. It has always been so in the settling up of new countries. Among those that stay are many Methodists, and one pleasing fact is, the longer they stay the better they like it. The fact is, this country is filling up with enterprising people from the north, and the day is not far distant when this desert shall blossom as the rose. The prospect for the growth of our work in this country was never so good as now; and that we are needed, to care for the coming thousands, is acknowledged by all thoughtful and observing men. We "run not as uncertainly," so fight we "not as one that breatheth the air."

Respectfully submitted, CYRUS A. KING,
Lake Charles, La., January 24, 1895. Supt. of the Gulf Mission.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT.

We acknowledge with thanksgiving the great and efficient work accomplished by the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society among the white and colored people of the south, specially during the quadrennium just closed. We rejoice and appreciate as never before the necessity and greatness of the work, as shown by the amount expended by the Society in the south during the year ending June 30, 1894, which is \$215, 354.68; and also it is a matter of satisfaction to know that the Society has now in its possession lands and buildings to the amount of \$1,800,000.00, and that the Society has educated more than 100,000 students during the last 30 years, and has now in the various schools nearly 10,000 students; and while we lament the indebtedness of the Society we are pleased to know that the debt has been funded and an issue of bonds made which bear five per cent interest and form one of the most secure investments for our people. From the Secretaries we learn that the enlarged work and the distressing embarrassment of the Society during the past year led to such curtailing of expenses as to require painful sacrifices on the part of the teachers, who have been deprived of one-quarter of their salaries for the year. This was necessary to provide against further indebtedness.

Fully appreciating the present conditions of the Society, and its urgent need of help from every source, we therefore request and recommend that a special Educational Collection be taken on every charge, and at every preaching appointment, for the benefit of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Society; and further recommend that not less than \$100.00 be apportioned to the various charges in the Mission for educational purposes. We believe the apportionment can be met where proper efforts are put forth.

We wish here to express our appreciation of the address and first visitation of one of the Secretaries of the Society, Dr. J. W. Hamilton, whose presence and words were an inspiration and encouragement to renewed zeal in this department of church work.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We recognize and praise God for the efficient work done by the "Board of Education," under the able management of Dr. C. H. Payne, its Corresponding Secretary.

We desire to call attention to what the law of the church now requires of the pastor in reference to "Children's Day:"

1. That the pastor shall cause "Children's Day" to be observed by every Sunday school in his charge.
2. That in connection with the "Children's Day" exercises one separate, undivided collection shall be taken by every Sunday school expressly for the "Sunday School Children's Fund."
3. That this collection is to be forwarded by each pastor directly to the Secretary of the Board of Education, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, a receipt for which will be sent to the pastor, to be given by him as a voucher to the Treasurer of his Annual Conference, or Mission.
4. That each pastor is to report this Children's Day collection to his Annual Conference, or Mission, under the head of "Children's Fund," and all moneys raised for any other educational purpose than for the "Children's Fund" should be reported to the Annual Conference, or Mission, under the head of "Other Educational Objects." Such moneys are at the disposal of the Conference, or Mission.

Therefore we urge upon every pastor to use the programme prepared by the Board of Education and take the collection on the day appointed.

BALDWIN ACADEMY.

Baldwin Academy is pleasantly and advantageously located at Baldwin, La., midway between Lake Charles and New Orleans on the Southern Pacific railway, and is the only institution of learning under the Methodist Episcopal Church in southwest Louisiana for white people. Our school at Baldwin is growing and has recently been carefully graded with Primary, Academic and Music Departments which provides for a Literary, Normal, Scientific and Classic Course of Study. The interest and attendance of the present year is an improvement over last year, and with some necessary additions to make room and furnish better accommodations, the work of the institution will reflect great credit upon the Southern Education Society and this Mission in the near future.

Many young people in Methodist homes and those friendly to us, who are anxious to obtain a more complete education than the public school offers, or where no public school exists, are ready to enter if they can be comfortably accommodated at reasonable rates. We, therefore, recommend and urge the active co-operation of all our people and pledge the support of the Mission looking toward the building of a suitable boarding hall for the Academy.

We further recommend that we recognize this school as an object of our special care and patronage and will most heartily support and assist the President in directing the young people of the charge to attend Baldwin Academy.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. K. WOODSON, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHURCH EXTENSION.

Whereas, The Board of Church Extension has, by its untiring efforts, done much to strengthen Methodism and extend the Redeemer's kingdom in this and other parts of the world, by liberal loans and donations of money for the purpose of building houses of worship for the people; and

Whereas, We recognize that without the aid furnished by the said Board it would have been impossible, in many places, to build houses of worship, and, in consequence, the work of the Redeemer would have been seriously hindered, and the labor of our pastors rendered less efficient; therefore be it

Resolved, That as ministers of the Mission we renew our allegiance to the Church Extension Society, and pledge our best endeavor to educate the people as to the needs of the Board, and solicit contributions for its more extended usefulness.

E. L. WELLS, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSION CAUSE.

Your Committee on the Mission Cause beg leave to report as follows:

Southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas, with its towns and rural districts inhabited by a mixed people, French and English speaking, together with an emigration from the north, is an inviting field for our Missionary society. At many points the French Catholic people, having lost faith in the Roman Church, are calling for Methodist preaching. And as we have only one missionary to these people the calls cannot be responded to. This work demands an increased force and also the establishment of schools. Our French missionary, in his report of eighteen months work, shows great success in winning the people for Christ, and is a Macedonian cry for help. The report of members of this Mission to the English speaking people, of their last year's work, summed up, sets forth the following facts:

1. There are many places destitute of the gospel.
2. These destitute people are not indifferent as to evangelical church influences.
3. Many of these people desire the ministration of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

4. In these places Sunday schools can be organized and classes formed, out of which will grow circuits and stations.

5. Many of these places are few in members now, but they are growing and will continue to grow until the "little one shall become a thousand."

Every indication seems to warrant the belief that this country will fill up and become populous. The immigration to this entire section is largely from the northern states. In all these settlements are found members of the Methodist Episcopal Church who are anxious for the fellowship of this church and are ready to co-operate with our missionaries in building up Methodism in these new and needy communities.

C. A. KING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Whereas, We find that the facilities for obtaining Bibles are limited, and, in consequence, a scarcity of the same in our homes;

Resolved, That we recommend that Bible depositories be established in our towns throughout the Gulf Mission.

M. E. DIEHL, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We believe in total abstinence and prohibition. The word of God condemns alike the drunkard and the drunkard-maker. We regard the liquor traffic as the overshadowing curse of this nation, the principal source of civil disturbances and the main cause of hunger and destitution, and the most formidable foe of the home and the church. The abettors of this traffic are united in their efforts against the divided and scattered forces of those who seek its overthrow.

We rejoice in the evidence we have that those who desire the complete extermination of the liquor traffic are being more united than ever before. This is manifest in the many, almost uniform, plain and truthful utterances of the different churches and temperance organizations. In the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church we have the whole subject, in its various aspects, forcibly set forth. We quote a small part of this utterance: "The only proper

attitude for the Christian is that of relentless hostility." "It can never be legalized without sin." "We are unalterably opposed to the enactment of laws that propose, by license, taxing, or otherwise, to regulate the drink traffic, because they provide for its continuance and afford no protection against its ravages."

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in 1894, declared against the traffic in equally strong terms. The Baptists, in June, 1894, said: "He who gives his influence and vote for men or parties who sustain license is sinning against Jehovah." The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, in June, 1894, said: "To license this traffic is a sin against God and a crime against humanity; being morally wrong, it can never be legally right." The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in May, 1894, speaks in unmistakable terms against the traffic. The Friends (Quakers) say: "The General Conference of the M. E. Church, in 1892, was right," and quote at length from the action of said Conference and endorse the same. Free Methodists, Christians, Christian Endeavors, Good Templars and others give similar utterances.

We believe the Christian church has it in her power, under God, to drive this demon of darkness from the face of the earth. The Great Head of the church "For this purpose was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." We will not content ourselves by favoring or using means that only propose to regulate the works of the devil.

P. A. DROWN, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Whereas, God in his wisdom and for his glory and the best good of his creature, man, has set apart and sanctified the seventh part of time and made it holy.

Whereas, He has forbidden mankind doing any servile labor on said time, only such as is needful to man and beast, and for His honor and glory.

Whereas, There is a growing tendency to pervert this holy day, and make it a time for pleasure and amusement by church members and the world, therefore be it resolved:

1st. As ministers and members of this Mission, we will protest and warn our people and congregations against patronizing, by their presence or otherwise, such as ball games, excursions, horse racing, railroad traveling, or visiting relatives and friends on this day.

2d. Resolved, That the time has come when a halt should be sounded from every pulpit in this land, and a sermon preached against these methods of dishonoring God.

3d. Resolved, That we are in sympathy with all methods and means that are being employed to stop Sabbath desecration and bring the world to God's plan.

4th. Resolved, That we are in sympathy with our present Sabbath law and wish it unchanged, only as shall be to make it more morally binding in the observance of God's law.

J. F. Ross, Chairman.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Your Auditor has examined the Superintendent's report of the missionary money secured by him, and finds that his receipts tally with the deposits.

Submitted,

P. J. ROBIDOUX, Chairman.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND TRACTS.

We record with gladness the total of Sunday school statistics in our church showing at the present time more than 28,000 Sunday schools which have been aided by the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and we especially rejoice that during the past year many children have been converted and brought into our church.

1st. We would commend the literature for Sunday schools supplied by our Book Concern and urge its use in all our schools in preference to other publications.

2d. We are happy to learn that during the past year three thousand schools were helped by the funds of the Sunday School Union.

Resolved, therefore, that we increase our diligence in aiding this Society by generous contributions.

We also recognize with pleasure the Tract Society as a mighty factor in spreading the Gospel among all men of all nationalities. We highly appreciate the great work done by the Tract Society of our church at home and abroad and we pledge ourselves to help this cause to the utmost of our ability.

Respectfully submitted,

PRESS C. CHANEY, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERIODICALS.

The committee on periodicals would report as follows:

We regard the periodical literature of the church as an indispensable system of doctrinal, experimental and ecclesiastical education, and recommend that copies of our church papers be placed in each family of our communion throughout the bounds of the Mission.

S. E. PENDLETON, Chairman.

SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL REPORT.

CROWLEY, LA., January 25, 1895.

Chas. K. Woodson in account with the Gulf Mission.

To subscriptions from the members and presiding officer of the Mission as follows:

	DR.	CR.
Bishop J. M. Walden.....	\$ 2 50	
S. E. Pendleton.....	2 00	
P. C. Chaney.....	1 50	
M. E. Diehl.....	2 00	
C. A. King.....	3 00	
P. A. Drown.....	2 00	
P. J. Robidoux.....	2 00	
Chas. K. Woodson.....	3 00	
E. L. Wells.....	2 00	
J. F. Ross.....	2 00	
To advertising.....	21 50	
To balance on last year's account	28 00	
By publishing minutes.....		\$51 80
By postage and expressage.....		4 20
By sundries and stationery.....		3 25
By balance on hand.....		12 25
 Total.....	 \$71 50	 \$71 50

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE MINUTE FUND.

Bishop Bowman.....	\$5 00
P. C. Chaney.....	2 00
R. L. Crawford.....	3 00
C. A. King.....	5 00
S. E. Pendleton.....	5 00
P. J. Robidoux.....	5 00
E. L. Wells	2 00
A. Wilkinson.....	1 00
Chas K. Woodson.....	5 00
M. E. Diehl.....	2 00
J. F. Ross.....	3 00
W. Shepherd.....	50
J. T. Gilmore.....	2 00
James Ellis.....	2 00
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Total.....	\$42 50

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer reported the following amounts from the various charges:	
Baldwin.....	\$37 00
Crowley and Ebenezer.....	39 00
French Mission.....	65 00
Jennings Circuit.....	12 00
Jennings.....	28 00
Lake Charles.....	54 00
Lake View.....	11 00
Oberlin.....	28 00
Welsh and Iowa.....	31 00
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Total.....	\$305 00

MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

The following missionary appropriations were made by Bishop Bowman, subject to the judgment of the Missionary Board of the Church:

Baldwin.....	\$ 75 00
Crowley.....	200 00
Jennings.....	300 00
Lake Charles.....	200 00
Lake View.....	200 00
Oberlin.....	180 00
Welsh.....	200 00
Southeast Texas Mission	245 00
 Total.....	\$1600 00
French Mission(Superintendent).....	100 00
French Mission (P. J. Robidoux, Pastor).....	600 00
 Grand total.....	\$2300 00

I concur in the above appropriations.

THOMAS BOWMAN.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

We, the members of the Gulf Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have greatly enjoyed the presence of Bishop Bowman as President of this our third session. His counsels and impartial superintendency have been highly appreciated, and we assure him that he will be welcomed by every one of us at any time in the future as our Presiding Bishop.

Whereas, We, the members of the Gulf Mission, have greatly enjoyed the hospitality of the good people of Crowley, and have fared sumptuously upon their bounty; therefore be it

Resolved, That we hereby extend our thanks to those who have with untiring efforts endeavored to make our stay among them of a pleasant remembrance, and hope at some future time to visit them again; be it further

Resolved, That we express our appreciation of Rev. M. E. Diehl, the pastor, who did his best to make our visitation agreeable, and ministered to our wants in a courteous and brotherly manner.

Whereas, The secretaries and treasurer have been very faithful in the performance of their duties.

Resolved, That we extend to them our thanks for their services.

PRESS C. CHANEY.

A COMMUNICATION.

Honored and Reverend Bishop Bowman and Reverend Fathers and Brothers, greeting:

In behalf of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, I gladly report the privilege, with the special aid of President Chas. K. Woodson and Mrs. John Baldwin, of organizing the first Auxiliary in the Gulf Mission, at Baldwin Academy, Baldwin, Louisiana, March 18th, 1894, with fifteen members and seven subscribers for our "Home Mission" paper.

At Jennings, Louisiana, January 20th, 1895, by courtesy of Reverend Dr. Pendleton, I gave an address in the Methodist Church, when thirty-one persons formed an Auxiliary, and ten subscribed for the paper.

January 23d, 1895, through the kindness and efforts of Reverend R. L. Crawford, I spoke at Lake Charles, when eight members began the work in that place. It being a week-day night, and the necessary absence of the pastor at Conference, prevented larger results; but Prof. and Mrs. Knapp did all they could to help, and officers were elected. It seems to me that it is now time to have a conference organization, with so many capable women within the bounds of the Gulf Mission.

May this be your best Conference session, in His name, whom we serve.

MRS. COL. SPRINGER,

In behalf of the Woman's Home Missionary Society.

Resolution.—The following resolution, presented by the committee on Mission Cause, was adopted: We heartily endorse the movement of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, and earnestly recommend the organization of auxiliary societies throughout the bounds of the Gulf Mission.

C. A. KING, Chairman.

ANNIVERSARIES AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

CHURCH EXTENSION ANNIVERSARY: On Wednesday night, Jan. 23, 1895, the opening service of the third session of the Gulf Mission was held in the interest of Church Extension. Cyrus A. King presided. Asbury Wilkinson led in prayer. Rev. W. A. Spencer, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, fully maintained his high reputation in song and speech by an address of unusual interest full of valuable information, and by touching songs and solos which greatly edified and delighted his audience. A collection was taken at the close of the address which amounted in cash and pledges to \$120.

SERMON: Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock R. L. Crawford preached a very acceptable sermon from the text: Ps. 48: 12-13. After the discourse Bro. Crawford conducted a very interesting testimony meeting; Subject, "Am I a child of God?"

EDUCATIONAL ANNIVERSARY: On Thursday evening the Educational Anniversary was held. Cyrus A. King presided and Prof. J. T. Barrett, President of Acadia College, offered prayer. An able and inspiring address was delivered by Rev. J. W. Hamilton, D. D., corresponding secretary of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society. Dr. Hamilton also presented the interests of the Christian Educator and a good subscription list was the result.

SERMON: Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock J. F. Ross preached a helpful sermon from Eph. 6: 10-11. Theme, "The Christian's Defense."

TEMPERANCE ANNIVERSARY: On Friday evening at 7:30 the Temperance Anniversary was held. Stirring addresses were made by R. L. Crawford and P. J. Robidoux and much interest manifested.

SERMON: Saturday afternoon at 3:30, P. C. Chaney preached. His text was the entire first Psalm.

SERMON: On Saturday evening S. E. Pendleton, D. D., preached a powerful sermon on "Christian Perfection," which was set forth in all its doctrinal aspects and was thoroughly appreciated by his audience. An altar service of deep spiritual influence was conducted by Dr. Pendleton at the close of the sermon.

SABBATH SERVICES.

MISSION LOVE FEAST: Sunday morning at 9:30 the superintendent, Cyrus A. King, conducted the Mission Love Feast. A spiritual and refreshing time was enjoyed and the interest of the occasion was increased by the testimonies of those who had grown grey in the service of the Master.

SERMON: At 11 o'clock Bishop Thomas Bowman preached a suggestive and deep spiritual sermon from Matt. 13: 45-46: "Again the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls; who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it."

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY: On Sunday evening at 7:30 the Missionary Anniversary was held. E. L. Wells and R. L. Crawford led in prayer. Addresses were made by the Superintendent, Cyrus A. King, and Bishop Bowman. The Bishop gave some very interesting accounts and observations of our work, and that of Christianity generally, in foreign fields. The Bishop then proceeded to read the list of appointments for the ensuing year. After which the Superintendent, Cyrus A. King, spoke again, but particularly with reference to certain needy fields, and asked for a special collection of \$100 to open up new work, and received pledges to the amount of \$65. The doxology was sung and the Bishop pronounced the benediction.

STATISTICS No. 1.

STATISTICS No. 2.



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STATISTICS No. 3.

STATISTICS No. 4.

BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS.

	Missions	Education	
Conference Claim's	5	31	39
Episcopal Fund	1	2	5
Woman's Home M.S.	1	1	37
Woman's For. M. S.	1	1	12
American Bible Soc.	3	3	54
Other Educ't objects	33	15	11
Children's Fund	1	1	5
Tract Society	1	1	28
Sunday S. Union	1	1	5
Board Ch. extension	10	15	65
Total	20	35	305
Sunday school	13	6	42
Church	13	19	305
			139
Total	96	43	942
Last year's report	00	00	166
Inc. and decrease	00	00	942

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